



## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Rural Utilities Service

[Docket No. RUS-22-ELECTRIC-0022]

#### **60-Day Notice of Proposed Information Collection: Request for Approval to Sell Capital Assets; OMB Control No.: 0572-0020**

**AGENCY:** Rural Utilities Service, Agriculture (USDA).

**ACTION:** Notice; request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Rural Utilities Service (RUS), United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) announces its' intention to request an extension of a currently approved information collection and invites comments on this information collection.

**DATES:** Comments on this notice must be received by [INSERT DATE 60 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER] to be assured of consideration.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments may be submitted electronically by the Federal eRulemaking Portal: Go to <https://www.regulations.gov> and, in the “Search Field” box, labeled “Search for Rules, Proposed Rules, Notices or Supporting Documents,” enter the following docket number: (RUS-22- ELECTRIC-0022). To submit or view public comments, click the “Search” button, select the “Documents” tab, then select the following document title: (60-Day Notice of Proposed Information Collection: Broadband Grant Program; OMB Control No.: 0572–0020) from the “Search Results” and select the “Comment” button. Before inputting your comments, you may also review the “Commenter’s Checklist” (optional). Insert your comments under the “Comment” title, click “Browse” to attach files (if available). Input your email address and select “Submit Comment.”

Information on using Regulations.gov, including instructions for accessing documents, submitting comments, and viewing the docket after the close of the comment period, is available through the site's "FAQ" link.

Other Information: Additional information about Rural Development and its programs is available on the Internet at <https://www.rd.usda.gov>.

All comments will be available for public inspection online at the Federal eRulemaking Portal (<https://www.regulations.gov>).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Kimble Brown, Management Analyst, Rural Development Innovation Center – Regulations Management Division, United States Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, South Building, Washington, DC 20250-1522. Telephone: (202) 720-6180. E-mail: [kimble.brown@usda.gov](mailto:kimble.brown@usda.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

The Office of Management and Budget's (OMB) regulation (5 CFR part 1320) implementing provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104–13) requires that interested members of the public and affected agencies have an opportunity to comment on information collection and recordkeeping activities (see 5 CFR 1320.8(d)). This notice identifies the following information collection that RUS is submitting to OMB as extension to an existing collection with Agency adjustment.

*Title:* Request for Approval to Sell Capital Assets.

*OMB Control Number:* 0572-0020.

*Expiration Date of Approval:* November 30, 2022.

*Type of Request:* Revision of a currently approved information collection.

*Estimate of Burden:* Public reporting for this collection of information is estimated to average 3 hours per response.

*Respondents:* Not-for-profit institutions; Businesses or other for-profits.

*Estimated Number of Respondents: 33.*

*Estimated Number of Responses per Respondent: 1.*

*Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 99 hours.*

*Abstract:* The Rural Utilities Service (RUS) is a credit agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). It makes mortgage loans and loan guarantees to finance electric, telecommunications, and water and waste facilities in rural areas. In addition to providing loans and loan guarantees, one of the Agency's main objectives is to safeguard loan security until the loan is repaid. When a borrower enters into the mortgage agreement with the Agency, all current and future capital assets of the borrower are ordinarily mortgaged or pledged to the Federal Government as security for Agency loans. The Agency's policy on sales of capital assets requires that the sale meet several requirements including the following: 1) the selling price shall be greater than or equal to the fair market value; and 2) the sale shall not jeopardize the repayment of the Agency's loan.

The selling of assets reduces the security and increases the risk to the government. RUS Form 369 allows the borrower to seek agency permission to sell some of its assets. The form collects detailed information regarding the proposed sales of a portion of the borrower's systems. RUS electric utility borrowers complete this form to request RUS approval in order to sell capital assets when the fair market value exceeds 10 percent of the borrower's net utility plant.

Comments are invited on:

(a) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;

(b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the collection of information including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

(c) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other

technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology. All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record.

Copies of this information collection can be obtained from Kimble Brown, Rural Development Innovation Center – Regulations Management Division, at (202) 720-6780. Email: kimble.brown@usda.gov.

All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will also become a matter of public record.

Christopher McLean,  
Acting Administrator,  
Rural Utilities Service.  
[FR Doc. 2022-15378 Filed: 7/18/2022 8:45 am; Publication Date: 7/19/2022]